

# 8th Grade Immunizations

## Tdap is Required for 8th Grade in any Missouri School

### Tdap (1 dose)

Protects against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis.

- *Tetanus* - causes severe tightening of muscles, which can limit swallowing and breathing.
- *Diphtheria* - a throat infection that can lead to breathing problems, paralysis and death.
- *Pertussis* - (whooping cough) a contagious disease that causes violent coughing and makes it hard to breathe.

## Other Recommended Vaccines

### Varicella (2 doses)

Protects against chicken pox that can cause fever and an itchy rash. Can lead to skin infection, scars and pneumonia.

### Meningococcal (2 doses)

Protects against bacteria spread through coughing, sneezing, kissing or sharing anything by mouth. Can lead to brain damage, loss of hearing or loss of limbs and even death.

### Influenza (1 dose annually)

Protects against flu that causes fever, tiredness, cough and runny nose. Can lead to pneumonia.

### Human Papillomavirus (HPV) (3 doses)

Protects females and males against the most common types of HPV that could cause genital warts, cervical cancer and anal cancer.

## Vaccines for Children

Children may be eligible to receive free vaccines through the Vaccines for Children program before their 19th birthday.

Contact the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services or your local public health agency to find out if your child is eligible.



*Vaccines aren't just for infants!*